

**Judicial Education Committee Meeting**  
**30 South Meridian Street, Suite 900**  
**May 14, 2010**  
**1:15-3:30 p.m.**

Members in attendance: John Rader, (chair), Diane Boswell, Darrin Dolehanty, Sherry Biddinger Gregg, Steve Heimann, Bill Hughes, Jack Tandy, Mary Willis. Susan Orth and Earl Penrod (by phone).

Staff in attendance: Jane Seigel, Vicki Davis, Anne Jordan.

1. **Approval of Minutes from January Meeting.** The January minutes were approved as written.
2. **Review of Spring Judicial College.**
  - a. Evaluations were handed out and reviewed.
  - b. The committee discussed the general format of the Spring Conference and what they liked about this multiday course conference. The committee liked the variation between traditional and non-traditional courses. An example of this was Judge Bokland's extremely popular session, which although not applicable to daily judicial duties, was invigorating and very meaningful about how judges can make a difference in the world. The committee discussed full day versus half day course. Some of those offered at Spring would have benefited from being full day programs, like electronic discovery and sentencing options for OWI offenders. The topic should drive the length of the program. Indiana judge-faculty would be willing to teach a full day course if they have a panel supporting them. A suggestion was made to develop a full day session but offer it such that there are distinct parts that conferees could opt to attend the full day or a particular part and still get Judicial College credit. The committee also discussed the need for beginner/advanced courses. Staff reported on distribution of registration materials. This year, spring college registration information was sent both by email and hard copy. Approximately 180 conferees registered via the online process or an electronic media and 175 used snail mail. The committee discussed the difficulties of transitioning to electronic distribution of conference registration materials and an on-line registration process. There would be an obvious cost saving, but it was noted that some judicial officers simply refuse to check email or use a computer, and what would be done about this segment of the population. The consensus was that we should transition to electronic distribution of conference materials coupled with on-line registration. Judicial officers should be forewarned via hard copy letter and email. If by email, ask people to reply. Those who do not will be contacted to see if they would prefer to continue to receive hard copies by mail.
3. **Future Conferences**
  - a. Annual Meeting of Juvenile Court Judicial Officers, June 24-25. Staff reported the registration has been sent online for the juvenile conference. So far there are 80 people registered. A draft agenda was handed out.
  - b. Annual Meeting of the Judicial Conference of Indiana, September 21-23 (\*note! Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday). The tentative agenda was handed out. Staff reported that this agenda reflects the choices discussed at the January meeting together with other requests received from the Supreme Court. The Committee asked if we can offer the full 15 hours of CLE as proposed under Rule 28. The committee discussed a proposed session regarding use of senior judges. Issues identified included what information do senior judges need from the trial court? What services can senior judges offer? How do

trial judges know which senior judges will do what types of work? Most agreed there needs to be an explanation of how senior judges are matched with trial courts. Judge Mike Witte stopped in the meeting and offered to contact the president of the ABA, Steve Zak, and the president elect, William Robinson, as plenary speakers for September. He “pitched” a possible program on judicial outreach. He is the incoming president of the Judicial Division of the ABA. They are rolling out a program called “The Least Understood Branch” developed for non-lawyers. He is interested in a 75-90 minute time slot to train judges to use this program in their communities.

- c. Pre-Bench Orientation, December 2-3. The tentative agenda was reviewed. Staff reported there will be at least 9 new judges due to retirements. Seven incumbents are running, and there will be new judges who have been appointed since the 2009 orientation. Anyone interested in teaching was asked to email Center staff.
- d. Winter Conference, December 10. The committee considered the list of suggested topics for the December program and asked staff to pursue a program from the Aha! Process on *Bridges out of Poverty*.
- e. January New Judge Orientation, January 24-28. A tentative agenda was handed out. Staff pointed out this is a trial year in which we offer concurrent sessions and no separate day for juvenile training. We will tape the plenary sessions as well as the concurrent ones. Staff stated that program observers will also be asked to teach; and all faculty will be asked to teach more than one topic. Again, committee members were asked to contact Center staff if interested in participating.

#### **4. Additional Items for Discussion.**

- a. The follow-up from January on Needs Assessment; Development of Core Curriculum or a Curriculum Plan is tabled until a new Education Director is appointed.
- b. In-state Faculty Development. Judge Hughes stated its time for a faculty development course that could be taught by himself, Earl Penrod, and Mike Witte.
- c. Other items.
  - i. Staff will be asking the Conference Board of Directors permission to approve enforcement of the policy on billing conferees who reserve a meal and do not show up nor call with an explanation. The committee discussed this and offered their thoughts and concerns to Jane Seigel. The committee discussed whether meals should even be offered because of budgetary reasons. Problem: Providing meals helps control the start and end of education sessions, and allows for invaluable networking.
  - ii. Is there a solution to conferees who do not appear to be paying attention during sessions, i.e. reading a book, emailing, etc. The consensus was there is nothing we can do, the Center does not want to be seen as the ‘CLE police’; and that perhaps people are multi-tasking and are able to listen to a speaker at the same time they appear to be inattentive.

#### **5. Next Meeting Date: July 23, 2010**

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Anne Jordan**  
**Program Attorney**